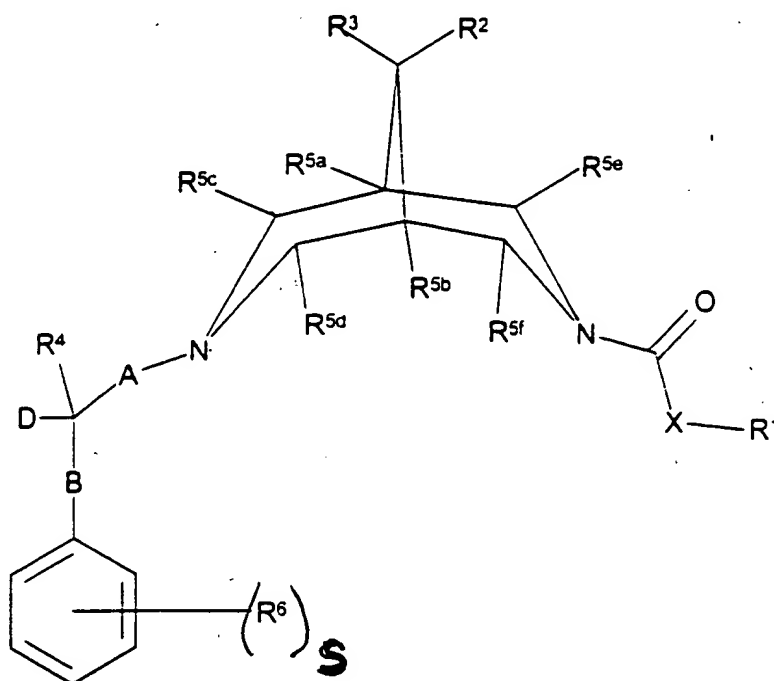


1. (Amended) A compound of formula I



wherein

$R^1$  represents  $C_{1-12}$  alkyl,  $-(CH_2)_a$ -aryl, or  $-(CH_2)_a$ -Het<sup>1</sup> (all of which are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, halo, cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl and  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy);

a represents 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

Het<sup>1</sup> represents a five to ten-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and which also optionally includes one or more =O substituents;

X represents O or S;

$R^{5a}$ ,  $R^{5b}$ ,  $R^{5c}$ ,  $R^{5d}$ ,  $R^{5e}$  and  $R^{5f}$  independently represent H or  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  independently represent H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl (optionally substituted with one or more nitro or cyano groups),  $OR^7$ ,  $N(R^{7a})R^{7b}$ ,  $OC(O)R^8$  or together form  $-O-(CH_2)_2-O-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_3-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_4-$  or  $-(CH_2)_5-$

$R^7$  and  $R^8$  independently represent H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $-(CH_2)_b$ -aryl (which latter two groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of  $-OH$ , halo, cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl and  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy);

$R^{7a}$  and  $R^{7b}$  independently represent H or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

b represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R^4$  represents H or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

D represents H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $-OR^9$ , or  $-(CH_2)_cN(R^{10})(R^{11})$ ;

$R^9$  represents H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $-C(O)R^{12}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_d$ -aryl or  $-(CH_2)_d$ -Het<sup>2</sup> (which latter three groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of  $-OH$ , halo, cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy,  $C(O)R^{13}$ ,  $C(O)OR^{14}$  and  $-N(H)S(O)_eR^{15}$ );

$R^{10}$  represents H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $-(CH_2)_f$ -aryl,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-S(O)_2R^{15a}$ ,  $-C(O)_gN(R^{16})(R^{17})$ ,  $C(O)R^{18}$  or  $-C(O)OR^{19}$ ;

e represents 0, 1 or 2;

g represents 1 or 2;

$R^{11}$  represents H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $-C(O)R^{20}$  or  $-(CH_2)_h$ -aryl (which latter group is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of  $-OH$ , cyano, halo, amino, nitro,  $C_{6}$  alkyl and  $C_{6}$  alkoxy);

$R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$ ,  $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{16}$ ,  $R^{17}$ ,  $R^{18}$ ,  $R^{19}$  and  $R^{20}$  independently represent H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, Het<sup>3</sup> or  $-(CH_2)_j$ -aryl (which latter three groups are optionally substituted by one or more

substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, cyano, halo, amino, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy);

R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>15a</sup> independently represent C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, aryl or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>k</sub>-aryl (all of which are all optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy);

c, d, f, h, j and k independently represent 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

Het<sup>2</sup> and Het<sup>3</sup> independently represent five to ten-membered heterocyclic rings containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and which also optionally includes one or more =O substituents;

*E*  
*B1*  
*cont*  
*E*  
R<sup>6</sup> ~~represents one or more~~ <sup>is an</sup> optional substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, cyano, halo, amino, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl (optionally terminated by N(H)C(O)OR<sup>20a</sup>), C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, -C(O)N(H)R<sup>21</sup>, -NHC(O)N(H)R<sup>22</sup>, -N(H)S(O)<sub>2</sub>R<sup>23</sup> and -OS(O)<sub>2</sub>R<sup>24</sup>; where s is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5

R<sup>21</sup> and R<sup>22</sup> independently represent H or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>20a</sup>, R<sup>23</sup> and R<sup>24</sup> independently represent C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

A represents a single bond, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene, N(R<sup>25</sup>)(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>, O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub> or (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>C(H)(OR<sup>25</sup>)(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- (in which latter three groups, the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- group is attached to the bispidine nitrogen atom and which latter four groups are optionally substituted by one or more -OH groups);

B represents a single bond, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylene, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>N(R<sup>26</sup>)-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>S(O)<sub>q</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>O- (in which three latter groups, the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>- group is attached to the carbon atom bearing D and R<sup>4</sup>), -C(O)N(R<sup>26</sup>)- (in which latter group, the -C(O)- group is attached to the carbon atom bearing D and R<sup>4</sup>),

$-N(R^{26})C(O)O(CH_2)_p-$  or  $-N(R^{26})(CH_2)_p-$  (in which latter two groups, the  $N(R^{26})$  group is attached to the carbon atom bearing D and  $R^4$ );

m, n and p independently represent 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

q represents 0, 1 or 2;

$R^{25}$  represents H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C(O)R^{27}$ ;

$R^{26}$  represents H or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

$R^{27}$  represents H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $Het^4$  or  $-(CH_2)_r$ -aryl (which latter two groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, cyano, halo, amino, nitro,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl and  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy);

$Het^4$  represents a five to ten-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and which also optionally includes one or more =O substituents;

r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof;

provided that:

(a)  $R^{5a}$ ,  $R^{5b}$ ,  $R^{5c}$ ,  $R^{5d}$ ,  $R^{5e}$  and  $R^{5f}$  do not all simultaneously represent H;

(b)  $R^{5a}$  and  $R^{5b}$  do not represent  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl when  $R^{5c}$ ,  $R^{5d}$ ,  $R^{5e}$ , and  $R^{5f}$ , all represent H;  
and

(c) when D represents -OH or  $-(CH_2)_cN(R^{10})R^{11}$  in which c represents 0, then: -

(i) A does not represent  $N(R^{25})(CH_2)_m$ ,  $O(CH_2)_m$  or

$-(CH_2)_mC(H)(OR^{25})(CH_2)_n-$  (in which n is 0); and/or

(ii) p does not represent 0 when B represents  $-(CH_2)_pN(R^{26})-$ ,

$-(CH_2)_pS(O)_q$  or  $-(CH_2)_pO-$ .

13. (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical formulation including an effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1 in admixture with a pharmaceutically-acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

NE  
19. (Twice Amended) A method of prophylaxis or treatment of an arrhythmia which method comprises administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1 to a [person suffering from, or susceptible to, such a condition] patient in need thereof.

Please add the following new claim:

B<sup>2</sup> 21<sup>27</sup>. (New) A method according to claim 19 wherein the arrhythmia is an atrial or a ventricular arrhythmia.